# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN RE Civil Action No. SONUS NETWORKS, INC. LITIGATION 04-10294-DPW (Lead Case) THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL CASES

# JOINT STATUS REPORT

Pursuant to the June 28, 2004 Order For Consolidation, Scheduling Order, and Notice Of Further Conference, the parties submit the following Joint Status Report in advance of the Status Conference scheduled for August 10, 2004 at 2:30 p.m.

#### I. LEAD PLAINTIFF MOTIONS

#### **Class Action Securities Cases** A.

At the June 28, 2004 Status Conference, the Court directed lead plaintiff movant BPI Global Asset Management, LLP ("BPI Global") to file affidavits and other documentation evidencing its decision-making authority regarding transactions in Sonus Networks, Inc. ("Sonus") stock. BPI Global filed these papers, which it contends evidence its decision-making authority, on July 6, 2004.

After reviewing BPI Global's filing, lead plaintiff movant The Farhat Group filed a response on July 12, 2004 stating that it believed BPI Global had complete investment discretion and, therefore, is an appropriate lead plaintiff. Movant Global Undervalued Securities Master Fund ("GUSMF") filed a response on July 13, 2004 opposing BPI Global's appointment as lead

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plaintiff based on GUSMF's contention that BPI Global lacks complete investment discretion with respect to its clients' investments in Sonus.

### B. Derivative Cases

## 1. Plaintiffs' Position

# a. Plaintiff William's Position

Counsel for plaintiff Williams (*Williams v. Ahmed et al.*, consolidated derivative docket No.1-04-civ-10359 DPW (filed February 23, 2004), the first filed derivative action, proposed a Co-Lead case management structure with Schubert & Reed LLP as Co-Lead Derivative Counsel or, alternatively, that the court should appoint Federman & Sherwood as lead derivative counsel and Alan L. Kovacs as liaison counsel. Counsel for Plaintiffs Burk (originally filed as *Burk v. Ahmed et al.*, 1-04-civ-10384 DPW on February 26, 2004) and Pisnoy (originally filed as *Pisnoy v. Ahmed et al.*, 1-04-civ-10576 DPW on March 24, 2004) do not agree to either of these proposals.

## b. Burk and Pisnoy Plaintiffs' Position

Two of the three consolidated derivative cases have reached agreement regarding appointment of lead derivative counsel: Counsel for Plaintiffs Burk (originally filed as *Burk v. Ahmed et al.*, 1-04-civ-10384 DPW on February 26, 2004) and Pisnoy (originally filed as *Pisnoy v. Ahmed et al.*, 1-04-civ-10576 DPW on March 24, 2004) have conferred and agreed that Schubert & Reed LLP should be appointed sole lead derivative counsel and that Gilman & Pastor LLP should be appointed liaison derivative counsel for the reasons previously set out in plaintiff Burk's moving papers. Wolf Haldenstein Adler Freeman and Herz LLP, previously proposed as co-lead counsel with Schubert & Reed LLP have been dropped from the proposal, to provide a

streamlined leadership structure. Wolf Haldenstein supports the change. Counsel for plaintiff Williams (Williams v. Ahmed et al., consolidated derivative docket No.1-04-civ-10359 DPW (filed February 23, 2004), does not agree to the proposed leadership structure.

Subsequent to the June 28, 2004 status/scheduling conference, plaintiffs in the derivative actions sent letters to defendants requesting that they preserve certain documents, including emails.

#### 2. **Defendants' Position**

The defendants continue to believe that the federal derivative cases should be stayed until the Massachusetts Business Litigation Session of the Superior Court has ruled on the motion to dismiss the parallel state court derivative cases, consolidated as Palma v. Ahmed, No. 04-0753-BLS. The Business Litigation Session heard argument on the defendants' motion to dismiss on June 11, 2004 and has taken that motion under advisement.

#### **COORDINATION OF THE CASES** II.

To the extent discovery can be coordinated between the securities class action and the derivative actions, and in light of what are likely to be certain overlapping factual issues, the plaintiffs believe it will be efficient and advisable to coordinate discovery where possible.

Defendants believe the cases will likely progress along different tracks. The federal securities class action is subject to an automatic discovery stay imposed by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 in the event defendants move to dismiss the complaint. 15 U.S.C. §78u-4(b)(3)(B). No such statutory stay will apply to the derivative actions in the event defendants move to dismiss them. The Defendants further believe that discovery in the federal

derivative cases should be stayed until the Court rules on their motions to dismiss, which they believe should be heard after a ruling on their pending motion to dismiss the parallel state court derivative cases.

Dated: August 5, 2004

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, KimLane E. Gantan, hereby declare under penalty of perjury as follows:

I am employed by Gold Bennett Cera & Sidener LLP, 595 Market Street,
Suite 2300, San Francisco, California, 94105-2835. I am over the age of eighteen years and am
not a party to this action.

On August 5, 2004, a true and correct copy of the aforementioned "JOINT STATUS REPORT" was delivered to all counsel of record by electronic service pursuant to the Court's Order Regarding Electronic Service.

Executed on August 5, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

KimLane E. Gantan